

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: PFOR, US, GR, TU

SUBJECT: MORE ON TURKISH MISSILES

REF: (A) ATHENS 9998, (B) ATHENS 10009

1. THE "MISSILE" STORY CONTINUED TO RICOCHET AROUND GREECE OVER THE WEEKEND, HITTING SOME WHO THOUGHT THEY WERE BY-STANDERS BEFORE IMPACTING ON THE MAIN VICTIM OF THE WILD CHARGES, THE UNITED STATES AND ITS INTERESTS IN GREECE.

2. THE STORY TOOK ON SOME NEW DIMENSIONS. ONE OF THESE, BASED ON "WASHINGTON SOURCES", WAS THAT THE MISSILES IN QUESTION WERE SUPPLIED TO BURKEY BY THE UNITED STATES THROUGHT WEST GERMANY OR PAKISTAN OR IRAN (TO VIMA, LIBERAL, OPPOSITION). ALSO, THE SMALL CIRCULATION BUT INFLUENTIAL RIGHTIST NEWSPAPER ESTIA CHIMED IN WITH AN EDITORIAL ON THE SUBJECT ENTITLED "DIRTY BLACKMAIL", ALLEGING THAT THE U.S. SUPPLIED TURKEY WITH MISSILES TO BLACKMAIL GREECE INTO MAKING CONCESSIONS TO TURKEY. THE FACT THAT A CONSERVATIVE

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NEWSPAPER LIKE ESTIA, WHICH THOUGH OFTEN CRITICAL OF

U.S. POLICIES IS BASICALLY FRIENDLY AND SUPPORTS CLOSE
TIES BETWEEN GREECE AND THE U.S., COULD TAKE SUCH A LINE
IS ILLUSTRATIVE OF HOW WIDELY AND UNCRITICALLY THE
"CHARGES" ABOUT TURKISH MISSILES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED HERE.

3. LESS DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH THE U.S. WAS A NEW
TWIST TO THE MISSILE TALE INTRODUCED BY OTHER
PORTIONS OF THE GREEK PRESS OVER THE WEEKEND. THIS
CHARGE, ALSO ATTRIBUTED TO SOURCES IN THE U.S., RELATED
THAT THE TURKS ARE USING THE LATEST RESEARCH ACTIVITIES
OF THE SISMİK IN THE NORTHERN AEGEAN TO COVER THE
INTRODUCTION OF MISSILES ONTO THE TURKISH AEGEAN ISLANDS
OF IMVROS AND TENEDOS.
KUBISCH

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